Introduction to Handwriting Analysis

Presentation Handouts

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ANGLES AND CURVES

The Totality of our Graphic Expression

STRAIGHT LINES

Push, aim, direct purposefully

Movement is dominated by the goal

STRAIGHT LINES create the ANGLES

Abrupt change of direction

No room for transition in contraction-release cycle

Imply firmness, determination, fight, either-or decisions

Abrupt display of energy to resolve conflict

Uncompromising: may modify with caution, diplomacy

Predisposition for inner conflict, or toward creative thought

CURVES

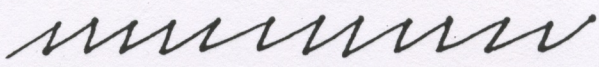
Combine and unite (does not seek goal image)

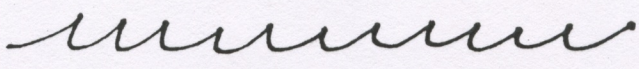
Flowing transition in change of direction

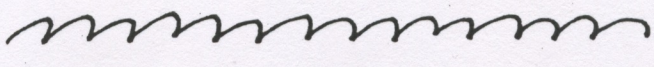
Compromise, join, engulf and embrace

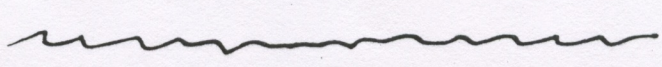
Yielding, elastic, smooth, soft

CONNECTIVE FORMS

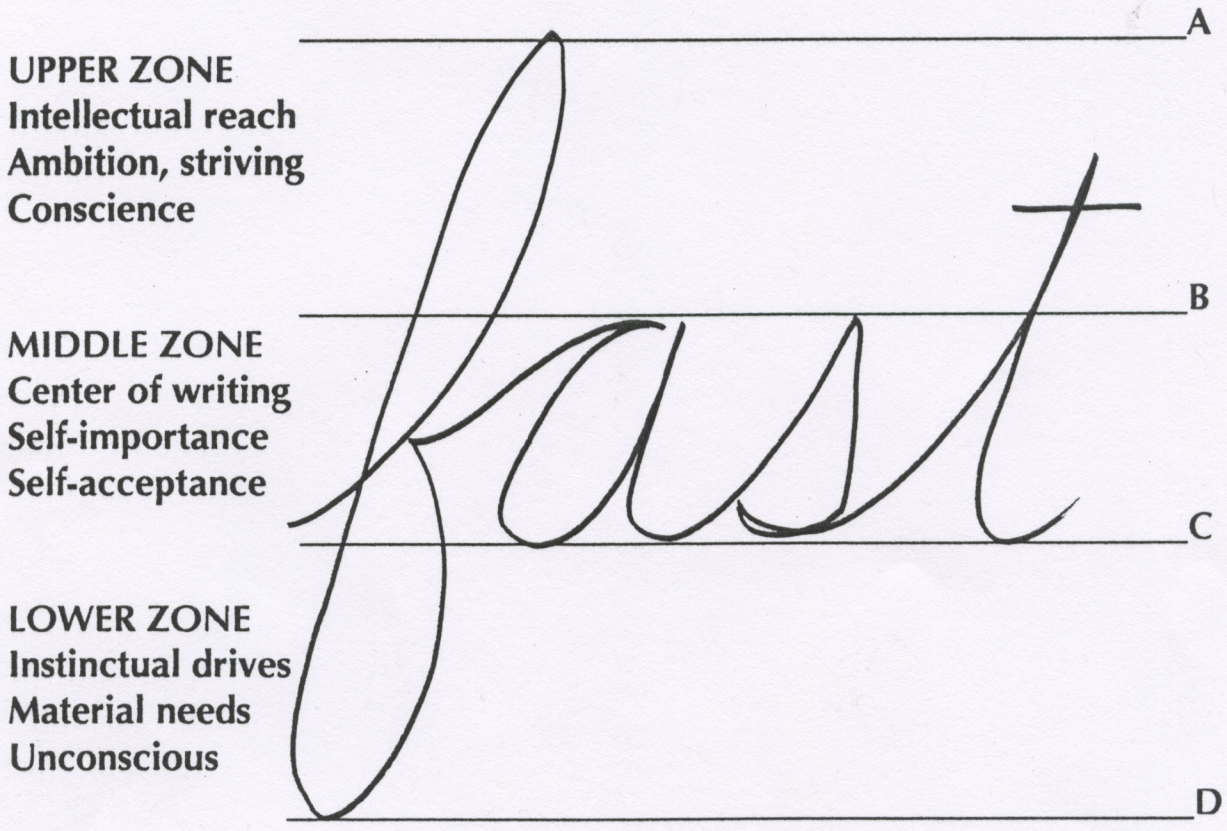
Angles 

Garland 

Arcade 

Secondary Thread 

THREE LETTER ZONES
SYMBOLIC AND EXPRESSIVE INTERPRETATIONS



MOVEMENT, SPACE AND FORM

Writing is a formed movement process in space

Three Basic Pictures
Three different aspects of personality

Interpretation: First: Understanding the handwriting picture as an entity
Then: Understanding its elements
Then: Combining elements with each other emphasizing dynamic relationships

MOVEMENT

- **Strength of drives, unconscious dynamics**
- **Interplay between impulse and control**
- **Level of vitality, activity, motivation, restraints**

Stroke quality
Continuity, fluency, speed
Contraction versus release

SPACE

- **Relationship to the environment**
- **Level of self-discipline, initiative, organizational skills**
- **Objectivity versus subjectivity**
- **Adherence to social boundaries**

Figure on ground, distribution on page
Size, letter proportions and slant
Distance between letters, words and lines

FORM

- **Ideal self and self-image**
- **Degree of originality**
- **Creative and cognitive processes**
- **Overt styles of behavior (stylized, spontaneous, conforming)**

Quality and individuality of letter forms
Innovation versus conformity
Connective forms (arcade, garland, angle and thread)

Getting to the Gestalt

- Are the Pictures undeveloped, developed or disturbed?
- Are they strong or weak?
- What is the pattern of dominance and relationship among the three Pictures?

Adapted from Dr. Robert Heiss

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CONNECTIVE FORMS

GARLANDS

Release movement suspended in air
Confident and at home in the world
Dominated by emotion rather than ego
Opens up, submits, exposes self, drawing in rather than imposing

ARCADES

Surround an obstacle and rest at bottom
At home in a place of security, away from the world
Reaches out to grasp, protect and caress
Ego-oriented, creates a screen between self and the environment

THREAD

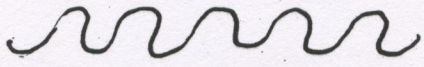
Adaptable, can take on many attitudes
Original attitudes worn off, an ambiguous presentation
In genius, capricious, alternation among different connective forms

SECONDARY THREAD

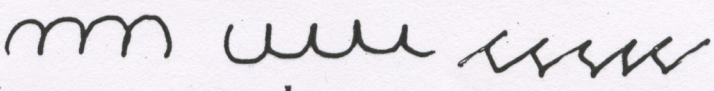
Flees rightward, avoiding commitments
Produces small middle zone
Need to get ahead and preserve ego at any price

PRIMARY THREAD

Momentary identification with different connective forms
Follow impulse forward, line of least resistance
Indifference towards social norms
Ambivalence & high degree of rhythmical integration (Beethoven)

DOUBLE CURVE 

Constant balancing between inner experiences and outer behavior
Social adaptability (positively); dependence on others (negatively)

COVER STROKES 

Calculated appearance, conceals
Combined with narrowness, over-control, craving for security

CONNECTIONS

ARCADES
Self-oriented
Conforming
Constructive
Reflective/Reserved
Practical
Protective

and I hope with all my heart that the cure will come soon — not just for Chris, but for all paralyzed people, and for the children especially.

With gratitude and warm regards,

GARLANDS
Other-oriented
Socially at Ease
Receptive
Warm
Adaptable
Compassionate

at the end of another all-weather road as it is euphemistically called we're not exactly sure!

ANGLES
Goal-oriented
Purposeful
Determined
Direct/Intense
Black & White
Aggressive

Donald Trump

Let me also thank you again for a most interesting and stimulating time.

SECONDARY THREAD
Original
Non-committal
Adaptable
Amorphous
Intuitive
Empathetic

PRIMARY THREAD
Impulsive
Defies Convention
Prolific
Versatile & Creative
Multiple Talents
Genius or Mad Man

Best Regards

Mythological Typologies Expressed in Handwriting: Adding to the Gestalt

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July 2005

Mars

Masculine, aggressive, has drive, energy, action and will power, dynamic, decisive, ambitious.
Realistic, quick to judge, needs to be right, intense, demanding, takes command.
Jung: extraverted sensation. Weakness: anger.
Graphics: rightward movement, angular, connected, strong pressure and tension, fast, flying strokes, large, right slanted.

Moon

Imagination and creativity, reflection, reverie, lacks structure, not bound by logic.
Intuitive, inventive, poetic, accommodates, evades difficulties, malleable, adapts, moody.
Jung: intuitive thinking. Weakness: laziness.
Graphics: thready, spontaneous, shallow garlands, curves, open spaces, low stroke tension.

Venus

Femininity, sociability, charm, conciliation, gentleness, gracefulness, search for harmony.
Receptive, likes to please, seductive, sentimental, adaptable, sensitive, moderate.
Jung: feeling. Weakness: possessiveness, jealousy, egocentricity.
Graphics: elegant, connected garlands, curved forms, elastic, progressive, controlled, balanced zones with middle zone dominant, warm pastose stroke.

Earth

Practical, stable, dependable, realistic and concrete.
Conventional, measured, detailed, orderly, logical, conscientious, loyal.
Jung: introverted sensation. Weakness: insensitivity, obsession about physical well-being.
Graphics: compact, restrained, simple (school copy) forms, hugs baseline, slow, deliberate, heavy, pastose pressure.

Sun

Proud, dignified, individualistic, idealistic, self-esteem and power, aesthetic/creative instincts.
Ambitious, strives to excel, have correct values, independent, has leadership and an overview.
Jung: intuitive thinking. Weakness: pride, arrogance.
Graphics: tall, vertical emphasis, narrow, elegant, bold, aesthetic, balanced spacing, aerated, poised, pressure firm, may be stylized, (can be middle zone dominant, arcaded, printed).

Jupiter

Broad-minded, social, self-assured, practical, desires influence, needs to succeed, enterprising.
Vitality, regulated forcefulness, generous, proud, subjective, impulsive, optimistic, indulgent.
Jung: extraverted feeling. Weakness: need to be important (at expense of inner life), overindulgence.
Graphics: expansive, large curves, exaggerated capitals, full middle zone, ballooned letters, firm pressure, well-nourished stroke.

Saturn
Serious, intellectual, withdrawn, prudent, inner life a priority, intense feelings not expressed.
Rational, narrow, precise, rigorous, strong convictions, inflexible, cautious, loyal, not sociable.
Jung: introverted thinking. Weakness: greed, anxiety, pessimism.
Graphics: small, narrow, concentrated, form dominant, precise, often angular, pointed, rigid organization, sharp thin stroke (can be thick), light pressure, linear, simplified, severe.

Mercury
Mentally active, curious, articulate, adaptable, emotional unstable, nervous, multifaceted, Individualistic, caustic intellect, more superficial than rigorous, shrewd, vulnerable.
Jung: extraverted thinking. Weakness: envy, lack of self-confidence.
Graphics: agile, rapid, thready, not very controlled, progressive, small (spidery), height and baseline irregularities, short lower zones, simplified, sharp stroke, light pressure.

Opposites
Venus and Moon are the opposite of Mars.
Earth is opposite of Sun.
Jupiter is the opposite of Saturn.
Venus is also the opposite of Mercury.

Questions to Consider
What types are most dominant and least dominant in the handwriting? What does that explain about the personality? Few handwritings reflect pure types.
What type or types are missing from the handwriting, and what does that imply about what is missing in the personality?

References
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Mythological Types – Composite by Patricia Siegel

Mars

Your message in support of the Constitution of the United States and our free nation.

Moon

[illegible]

Love my work because you enjoy it makes

Venus

Yes, cotton - dressy if you wish — for sat, night and a sweater or shall - mink, of course.

Earth

The only thing that separates any of one of us from excellence is fear, and the opposite of fear is faith. I am careful not to confuse excellence with perfection. Excellence I can reach for, Perfection is God's business.

Sun

Ed wants me to write something –
I suppose it is to be analyzed
to discover at the quirks of
personality ——— Then

Jupiter

Keep reaching for
divine love – it enriches
all of us – acceptance is
one sided.

Saturn

Dear Bob: Bad luck. I am here at work
for 2 months. Dr N.Y. Hospital gave me
so much to do and I wasted 15 days
on the flu. I waited to see you.

Agréez, je vous prie, Monsieur le Ministre,
l'assurance de tout mon respect.

Mercury

If and when you get time let
us know. We are here to
entertain you.
Col Hutchins and I enjoy a
fine